

Missouri Secretary of State, Library Development |
(800) 325-0131

GATES NEWS NETWORK

Opportunity Online Hardware Grant-What now?

The State Library submitted Missouri's application to the Gates Foundation for the Opportunity Online Hardware Grant in early May. We want to thank the seventy-five libraries that have completed the eligibility requirements for participation in this program. Several of those libraries have contacted us to ask 'when can we get started?'

We expect the foundation to make its official announcement of the grant award in early July. The Gates Foundation has requested that no announcements are made to news media until after the foundation makes its official announcement in early July.

Following the announcement, the State Library will send a manual and acceptance forms to all eligible libraries. Your OOHG manual will contain details about your library's award, program requirements, a sample news release, reporting forms, and a calendar of deadlines.

What Can We Do to Prepare for the Grant?

The official grant period begins on July 1.

Suggestions for steps to take now:

- Decide who will serve as project director, and who else on the library's staff may need to assist to manage computer purchase and installation; fundraising; communications; managing the funds, and completing reports.
- Libraries are encouraged to begin fundraising efforts for their local match now. Please explain the need for confidentiality to any groups or others contacted prior to the national grant announcement by the foundation.
- Begin planning for your library's new PCs! Check your network capacity; scout computer reviews; start thinking about staff training.



Stone County Library, Galena, MO

About Grant Administration:

A grant manual will arrive in mid-July. Included is a Gates Grant Contact form. Please complete and return this form by July 31, 2009.

To attend a grant administration LiveMeeting webinar, select a date from the dates below and send an e-mail including your name, library and the selected date, to:
Jean.Morrison@sos.mo.gov.

July 30 from 10-11 AM
July 31 from 1:30-2:30 PM
August 4 from 8:30-9:30 AM
August 5 from 1:30-2:30 PM
August 6 from 1:30-2:30 PM

The Gates News Network newsletter will be produced quarterly until January 1, 2012.

If you have a picture or news for this newsletter, please send it to:
Jean.Morrison@sos.mo.gov

Pictures and stories will be edited for use depending upon space allowed and topic relevance.

Eligibility Tests Run to Determine Library Awards

There were four tests for eligibility that was performed on Missouri library data.

Test 1-Poverty Level:

The foundation assessed the rate of poverty within a radius of each library facility in the state. To have data that was stable across the US, the foundation used the most recent US Census (2000) figures. Free and Reduced lunch data and Unemployment data were also considered. From that assessment, ---- library locations were eligible for further review.

Test 2-Patron Computer Inventory Entered

Eligible libraries entered their patron computer inventory into TechAtlas. Libraries that did not enter their inventory were eliminated from consideration

Test 3-Age of computers

Libraries with patron computers more than four years old remained eligible. In the first list received from the foundation, computers less than five years old were considered adequate. In late March, a new list was released that considered computers over four years old to be "hardware vulnerable".

Test 4-Level of Service

A basic "Level of Service" (LOS) was calculated. This was the number of people in poverty who would be required to share each adequate computer. The number of computers awarded to eligible libraries was determined based on this LOS table:

Note: PIP=Persons in Poverty

Small library=1 PC per 100 PIP

Medium library=1 PC per 300 PIP

Large library=1 PC per 600 PIP

If a library's LOS was greater than the table PIP number, say a medium-sized library had a LOS of 1 computer per 400 PIP, enough computer funding was awarded to bring the LOS down to 1 per 300 PIP or less.

Introducing the State Library Gates Foundation Grant Project Team:

Brandy Sanchez, Continuing Education Consultant (Pictured on the Left):

Brandy works with the Library Development team to develop statewide training events for Missouri library staff. She is responsible for administering the Show Me Steps grant program, the State Library Scholarship program, and the bi-annual Institute held for library paraprofessionals. Brandy came to the State Library in December 2007 after nearly five years in public services at the Daniel Boone Regional Library.

Jean Morrison, Technology Consultant – OOHG Project Leader (Second)

Jean came to Library Development in April 2008 after working at the Department of Health and Senior Services for 7 years as an Information Technologist. At Library Development, she works with technology grants including administering the Gates Grant, E-rate, electronic resources, the REAL pro-

gram, videoconferencing, and processes updates to the Library Development portion of the SOS web site.

Barbara Reading, Library Development Director (Third):

Barbara has worked with the state library for fifteen years. As Library Development Director, she has worked with staff managing the state library's technology programs including Show Me the World, technology grants, Missouri Digital Heritage, and the REAL Program. She also oversees the state library's continuing education and grants programs.

Maria Hines, Library Administration and Management Consultant (Right):

Maria serves as a consultant to Missouri libraries and library boards. She specializes in library governance, planning, evaluation, and establishment of library services in unserved areas. Maria is also the editor of the Show Me Express and Show Me Libraries newsletters.



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